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**STPEC 101 | Introduction to STPEC**

**TuTh | 11:30am – 12:45pm**

**Shemon Salam**

**3 credits**

This course will familiarize new students with the program and its vision. STPEC is a rigorous, democratically run, interdisciplinary academic program. STPEC is also a community of students, staff, instructors, alumni, and friends that will help you navigate your time at UMass. Ideally this course will also familiarize us with each other.

The content of this course is organized around concepts students will encounter in their other STPEC requirements, as well as in the STPEC community and the greater world. It will provide an introduction to social theory, political economy, race and ethnicity, gender, masculinities and femininities, globalization and inequality in the Global North and the Global South. Assignments facilitate exploration of these and related topics. Students will have the opportunity to learn the value of social theory and how to make an argument; communicate for effective dialogue, and how to begin to identify social justice issues.

STPEC 101, like STPEC's core classes, is seminar-style. This means small groups with an emphasis on discussion and reflection.

*This class is open to STPEC majors only.*

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**STPEC 189 | Introduction to Radical Social Theory**

**W | 4:00pm – 6:30pm**

**Graciela Monteagudo**

**4 credits**

**Gen Ed: HS and DU**

This is an introductory course to radical social theory. Our focus is the history of social thought in the West, and the postcolonial critiques of some of these ideas. In this course, students will learn that "radical" means "at the root," and radical social theory is theory that explains the roots of social inequalities and proposes ways of transforming society to achieve justice. As a General Education course, our goal is for students to have the opportunity to discuss key societal issues through a variety of disciplines, including philosophy, anthropology, history, economy, African-American, Native American and gender and sexuality studies. Through analysis of readings and films, we will explore the connection between cultural processes and power in the West and the implications for non-Western people on a global scale and on different times and places.

*Seats in this course are reserved for freshmen and sophomores of any major. STPEC students may enroll.*

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**STPEC 291X | STPEC Executive Committee**

**Time TBD**

**Hoang Phan**

**1 credit**

Enrollment required for students serving as representatives to the STPEC Executive Committee. Requirements for credit include: attending an orientation session and all student representative and full Executive Committee meetings, delivering weekly announcements to designated STPEC courses and, in STPEC courses in which they are enrolled, facilitating a 15 min forum prior to both full Executive Committee meetings.

*This course will be scheduled at a mutually agreed upon time.*

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**STPEC 320 | Writing for Critical Consciousness**

**TuTh | 11:30am – 12:45pm**

**Shakuntala Ray**

**3 credits**

**Junior Year Writing**

The STPEC Junior Writing Seminar focuses on individual development of voice. We will weave this theme through standard essay assignments, weekly response papers, cover letters and resumes, and a student-driven class project of your choosing. Since you and your classmates will be struggling together to find your voices, we'll focus on peer-editing and tutoring techniques at the beginning of the semester. As we discuss peer-editing, we may consider issues of language and dialect, Black English, Standard Written English and feminism. The second half of the semester will focus on political, environmental, educational, cultural, and philosophical texts. Throughout all assignments I expect to see cultivation of your voice and communication of your own creative ideas. I encourage

integration of ideas from your other courses and experiences. Be prepared to think critically and examine texts carefully. We will be sharing our writing with each other – be ready to give and receive constructive feedback. This course meets only once a week; do not plan to miss any classes.

*Enrollment is limited to 20 students. STPEC majors only. Prerequisite: College Writing or equivalent.*

### **STPEC 391H | STPEC Core Seminar I**

**TuTh | 1:00pm – 2:15pm**

**Shemon Salam**

**4 credits**

STPEC Core Seminar I looks at the Black Radical Tradition and racial capitalism from the 15th century to World II. Through these two frameworks and methods we will analyze gender, inequality, nationalism, and struggles of the oppressed. This is a student driven course where classroom discussions, presentations, self-reflections, and group work are central to the daily functioning of the class.

*Enrollment is limited to 20 students. STPEC majors only.*

*PREREQUISITES: One Intro to Social Theory course and one Intro to Political Economy Course chosen from the STPEC Recommended Course List.*

### **STPEC 392H | STPEC Core Seminar II**

**TuTh | 2:30pm – 3:45pm**

**Graciela Monteagudo**

**4 credits**

STPEC Core Seminar II focuses on a series of interrelated political, social and theoretical movements of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Century with an emphasis on how political practices and philosophies relate to the successes and catastrophic failures of modernism in complex and contradictory ways. Some of the topics addressed include anti/post-colonialism, the role of identity in political theory/practice and poststructuralism. We will research the connection between race, class, gender, sexuality, able-bodiedness and other axes of oppression resistance under neoliberalism, including violence against women. A major research paper of the student's choosing will be produced over the course of the semester allowing them to more deeply engage with a topic, and to practice applying the critical methodological and theoretical tools developed in the STPEC curriculum.

*Enrollment is limited to 20 students. STPEC majors only.*

*PREREQUISITES: One Intro to Social Theory course and one Intro to Political Economy Course chosen from the STPEC Recommended Course List.*

### **STPEC 491H | STPEC Focus Seminar I: A Luta Continua: Africana Critical Theory and the Making of a Better World**

**Tu | 4:00pm – 6:30pm**

**Amilcar Shabazz**

**4 credits**

In this course, A Luta Continua, we will investigate, critique, extend, reaffirm, and elaborate on the work, practice, and history of Amilcar Cabral and others that involved the channeling of outrage into a response rooted in strategy and unity that continuously seeks to improve itself and adapt to changing realities. It explores Cabral's philosophical legacy as a source of living history in today's world - a historical context qualitatively different from that in which they were created. A Luta Continua is a project of transmission and the cultivation of African intellectuality aimed at helping create new modes of social organization that resist anti-Black and anti-African violence, and ultimately liberate human beings from systemic oppression and exploitation. For the current generation wrestling with the long legacy of racial capitalism, white supremacy, state violence and dispossession, A Luta Continua is right on time. We will read probing, sophisticated, generative works that aim to bring Cabral's philosophy of praxis into clear focus. Conceptions of culture, colonialism, postcolonialism, history, consciousness, the human, the people, the nation, will be defined and used to reposition the African Liberation Movement as a chief progenitor of radical thought and show why ALM theory and praxis

remain powerful weapons for social change. The class is a 4-credit honors seminar for junior and senior STPEC students who have completed STPEC 391H. It fulfills the STPEC Focus Seminar requirement for STPEC students. FOCUS!

*PREREQUISITE: STPEC 391H*

*Enrollment is limited to 15 Senior and Junior STPEC majors only. Sophomores who obtain permission to enroll from the instructor should contact Monica Garcia for an override. Students may take Focus Seminars to fulfill upper level requirements. See the Recommended Course list for this semester to find out which category this seminar will fulfill and ask Monica to apply that change on Spire.*

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**STPEC 492H | STPEC Focus Seminar II: A People's History of the War on Drugs**

**W | 4:00pm – 6:30pm**

**Toussaint Losier**

**4 credits**

Since 1971, the U.S. federal government has waged a multifront campaign of drug prohibition, police action, and military intervention to stop the trade of illegal drugs into the United States. Nearly 50 years later, the government devotes more than \$50 billion a year to this campaign, while this country spends more than \$100 billion annually in consuming illegal drugs. By taking up this war's public policy failures, this course will examine how the production, sale, use, and control of illegal drugs has changed over the course of the War on Drugs. While grounded in the political economy of illegal drugs, from their production and trafficking through their sale and use, both domestically and internationally, this course will also seek to understand this decades-long campaign of drug control from the perspective of the people who have been caught up in its elaboration.

*PREREQUISITE: STPEC 391H*

*Enrollment is limited to 15 Senior and Junior STPEC majors only. Sophomores who obtain permission to enroll from the instructor should contact Monica Garcia for an override. Students may take Focus Seminars to fulfill upper level requirements. See the Recommended Course list for this semester to find out which category this seminar will fulfill and ask Monica to apply that change on Spire.*

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**STPEC 494PI | Praxis**

**W | 11:15pm – 1:45pm**

**Shemon Salam**

**3 credits**

**Integrative Experience**

This course tackles the latest developments in racial capitalism by analyzing social struggles and organizations since the economic crisis of 2007. Using the latest research on gender, class, race, empire, and sexuality this course looks at how crisis and struggle are simultaneously shaping the world. The final paper for this course is a 12-15 page paper that situates an organization within the framework of racial capitalism and analyzes how this organization addresses the dynamics of oppression and liberation.

As an integrative experience (IE) course students are encouraged to draw on knowledge from prior courses, life experiences, and readings from outside the class. Praxis will be driven by applying theory to the real world. This course is highly student driven: composed of presentations, small group discussions, debates, and self-reflection.

*This course satisfies the Integrative Experience requirement for BA-STPEC majors.*

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**STPEC 498Y | Practicum – Exploring the Intersection of Theory and Practice**

**Hoang Phan**

**3 credits**

This course fulfills the STPEC internship requirement. Students in this course undertake an internship of 120 hours or more in an organization of their choice, and engage in critical reflection on their experience. Fieldwork placements are identified and arranged

by each individual student and must be approved by the instructor. Students are encouraged to use this class as an opportunity to synthesize knowledge gained in the classroom and test its applicability to “real life” situations.

*To enroll, submit a completed STPEC internship contract before the end of add/drop. Note: you must meet with Monica Garcia and get approval of your placement before you turn in your contract. She can be reached at mmgarcia@umass.edu.*

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**The following courses do not fulfill any STPEC or University requirements**

**STPEC 298: Practicum (1-12 credits, mandatory pass/fail)**

**STPEC 398: Practicum (1-12 credits, graded)**

These two options are for students doing elective internships (i.e., this course does not fulfill the STPEC internship requirement). The primary differences between the courses are grading (STPEC 298 is pass/fail) and recommended final paper length: students in STPEC 298 write about 2-3 pages per credit, and students in STPEC 398 write about 3-4 pages per credit. Students in these courses receive one credit for every 40 hours of work that they complete in an organization of their choice. They must find a faculty sponsor who is willing to grade their written work and submit a grade. The STPEC Internship Advisor can provide assistance with finding placements and faculty sponsors, but this is ultimately each student’s responsibility.

*To register, speak with Monica Garcia, Director of STPEC’s Internship Program and complete a STPEC Internship Contract by the end of add/drop.*